FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 6, 2002

Contact: Patti Bellows (517) 373-1796

## Jelinek Appointed to Senate Appropriations Committee

**Lansing** –Incoming Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema, R-Wyoming, today appointed Senator-elect Ron Jelinek, R-Three Oaks, to the Senate Appropriations Committee for the legislative session beginning January 2003.

"Ron Jelinek's leadership on the House Appropriations Committee will bring valuable experience to the Senate Appropriations Committee," Sikkema stated. "Jelinek's leadership will be a tremendous asset to the committee as Michigan families and businesses look to the state to establish a solid economy."

The Senate Appropriations Committee is responsible for approving all state government spending, including the annual budgets of state departments.

"I look forward to working with my new colleagues-both Democrats and Republicans alike- to overcome the current challenges our state budget is facing," Jelinek said. "I am eager to start working so that we may restore our economy and jobs for Michigan families."

Jelinek was elected to the Michigan House of Representatives in 1997, and currently serves on the House Appropriations Committee.

On January 8, 2003, Ron Jelinek will be sworn in as the State Senator of the 21<sup>st</sup> District, representing Berrien, Cass and part of Van Buren counties.

-30 -

Comments by Sen.-elect Jelinek on his appointment to the Senate Appropriations Committee are available on the House Republican Newsline at (517) 373-0111.